



newsletter

Summer Newsletter – June / July / August 2021



“Together we make a family!”



Follow us on Twitter, Instagram and like us on Facebook!

Three great ways for you to keep up to date with all the latest news from the KingsWellies gang!

This term we have been very busy focusing on our topic, “Healthy Body Happy Me”.



We have also been very busy with Child Safety Week, supporting the RSPB, Eco Schools and sustainability, planting our garden, planning our graduation party, picnics at “the hills”, getting ready to go to school, learning Makaton, learning all about minibeasts and farm animals, hatching our chicks, watching our tadpoles turn into frogs, caring for our caterpillars as they go through their life cycle into beautiful butterflies lots of outdoor play, road safety, reading our book bug bags, celebrating Easter, making Wellie the Scarecrow and LOTS more.....





Staffing Update

Huge congratulations go to Lauren and Rachel who are both pregnant. We are totally delighted for you ladies and can't wait to welcome some more new Wellie babies. Remember stay fit, safe and healthy. I think that is a total of 9 pregnant staff we have had over the past year. Six new babies and three staff who are currently pregnant! Phew – it is hard to keep up!



Congratulations also go to Caroline who had baby Charlie recently and to Kayleigh who had baby Neo. We cannot wait to be able to invite all babies and mums up to nursery for a very special photo!



As always, we have some Summer staff who will be helping us out this year. Sarah Clark and Molly McIntosh will be joining the gang for Summer fun with us.

We are also delighted to welcome Chloe Allan, Sofia Clarke, Aimee Fong, Kaitlyn Edwards, Demi Butler, Nicole Stephen (rejoining us) and Annabel McColl to the team. Shannon Rogers has also rejoined us after a very short stint with another nursery. We are delighted to have you and Nicole back, Shannon. You may already have met some of our new team. Staff photos are up outside each room in the playground area so that you can put names to faces.



Chloe Allan

Kaitlyn Edwards

Annabel McColl

Sofia Clarke

Nicole Stephen



Huge congratulations to Amy Watson who has just completed her SVQ3 in Social Services (Children and Young People). Well done Amy. You are now a Qualified Practitioner. What a huge achievement. We are very proud of you. You are a real asset to the Wellies Team.

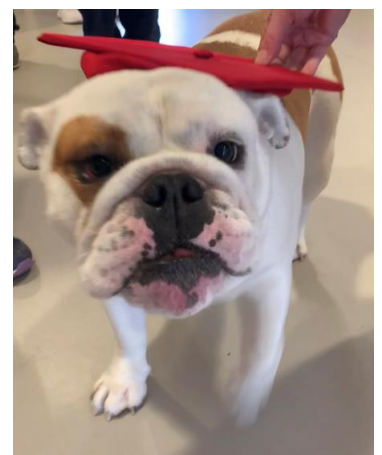
Judy Laing will also be joining us shortly from Entier as our permanent catering assistant. We can't wait to welcome her and taste her delicious food.

Children's Attendance and Registers

Please also let us know by 10am if your child will not be attending nursery on that day. Staff will contact parents after 10am to ascertain the whereabouts of your child. This is in line with our Child Protection and Health and Safety Policies. Thank you.

Best of luck to our boys and girls who will be leaving us to go to P1 and school nursery

We will miss you ALL very, very much but know that you are all ready for P1 and that each and every one of you will go far! Remember to send us photos of you in your school uniforms!! We have been very busy speaking to your new P1 teachers and also to your parents via zoom for parent's night. We will work EXTRA hard with your new schools to ensure that you experience a range of very positive transition activities to make sure that you are ready to start your next adventure. Marcia will be in touch with more details.



P1 Graduation

This year we have 42 children leaving us to go to school. We have all been very busy planning our Graduation party and ceremony which we will hold on Saturday 4th July. Our Graduation Group have been busy organising everything themselves. We can't wait to wear our graduation gowns for our official photos and to have a real knees up at our party and ceremony. Marcia will be sending more information out as we continue to plan. Only our school leavers will be invited to attend (no other leavers) as this is a special and important next step for them.

Kingswellies Class of 2021 🎓✏️

Here are some suggestions to help prepare your child for starting school in August.

- ☀️ Do they recognise their own name? If not make a sign together for their room and where they hang their jacket at home so that they are used to seeing it.
- ☀️ If you are going to teach them to write their name please only teach the first letter as a capital- if they learn their whole name in capitals it then takes time for them to unlearn it.
- ☀️ Remember school is different from when you went, they will be unlikely to have their own desk but they will be very used to the set up as it's similar to Nursery.
- ☀️ Label EVERYTHING!
- ☀️ Encourage them to open their own snacks so that they are able to do it at playtime and lunchtime.
- ☀️ Velcro shoes are best!
- ☀️ Don't share your concerns with them and don't talk about how they are your baby and they aren't ready! They are taking their lead from you!
- ☀️ Can they put on their own jacket and zip it up? If not, start encouraging them now!
- ☀️ Can they use the toilet independently and wash and dry their hands independently? Now is the time to work on this.
- ☀️ When you find out their gym days it's best not to put them in shirt and tie on these days.
- ☀️ In Scotland all P1s-P3's get a free lunch - when you get a menu pop it somewhere in the house and let them know what the choices are each day and decide what they will have together.
- ☀️ This year is unique as there hasn't been visits to school but remember that all the children are in the same position!
- ☀️ P1 teachers are angels in disguise, I promise you can trust them with your baby! 🥰

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts

Some of our children have already started to leave us and I have to say that all of the emails, messages and cards have really brought a tear to my eye. The very kind words mean such a huge amount as it proves that we have achieved what we set out to do. We genuinely only want the very best for all of our children and families. Also all of the extremely positive comments that we have received during the pandemic, have really meant a huge amount to us too.



Care Inspectorate Inspection – March / April 2021

We are really delighted to have received our Care Inspection report. We came out with flying colours and couldn't have done any better! I am extremely proud of the staff and children who really impressed our Inspectors with their knowledge and skills. Thank you also to the parents who contributed to the Inspector's consultation. All comments were also very positive. I will send out the finalised Report as soon as it is published.



What will we be learning and thinking about over the next few weeks?

Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on a variety of topics in our playrooms.

These will include:

- Happy Healthy Me – focus on personal hygiene and handwashing
- Cultures of the world – PLEASE talk to us about your childhood memories, your culture, your traditions, your beliefs and your celebrations. We really want to learn more about cultures around the world.
- Star Catchers – drama, dance, singing, creativity and imagination
- Rules and Routines
- KINDNESS – Are you a bucket filler or a bucket dipper?
- Child-led improvement groups – Our Eco Group, Kindness Group, Charities Group, Graduation Group and Playground Improvement Group will keep working hard to improve our nursery.
- Holidays and Landmarks
- LOTS of Reflection Time in our bubble groups; talking about our learning and what we would like to learn with our key workers. Adding to our Talking and Thinking Trees. Working on our floorbooks.
- Seasons and sun safety– Summer
- Gardening and making dens
- Our families and friends
- On the farm
- Walks out and about around our community and lots of outdoor play
- Visits and zoom calls from our P1 teachers
- Visits to our new schools
- Daily mile – scavenger hunts, environmental print, shape, numeracy, literacy and pattern walks
- Writing our names and learning lots of rhyming words
- Getting ready for school and our new school nurseries



- Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing – LOTS of exciting learning opportunities.
- 5th June – World environment day
- 8th June – World Ocean day
- 8th June – Best friends day
- 8th – 16th June – Children's art week / bike week
- 17th June – Vegetables day
- 10th – 14th June – Healthy eating week
- 18th June – British flowers week
- 20th June – Father's day
- 21st June – International day of yoga
- 29th June – International mud day
- July – BBQ time at KingsWellies
- 4th July – Class of 21 Graduation day
- 7th July – International chocolate day
- 10th July – Teddy bears picnic day
- 20th July – Moon day
- **20th July – Scottie Dog's 50th Birthday**
- 24th July – Ice cream day
- 30th July – International friendship day
- 1st August – UK play day
- 5th August – National sisters day
- 8th August – International cat day
- 19th August – World photo day
- 26th August – International dog day
- 5th September – International Charities day
- 8th September – International literacy day
- 13th September – Roald Dahl Day
- 18th September – Jewish new year
- Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing are the responsibility of ALL nursery and school practitioners. LOTS of exciting learning opportunities!

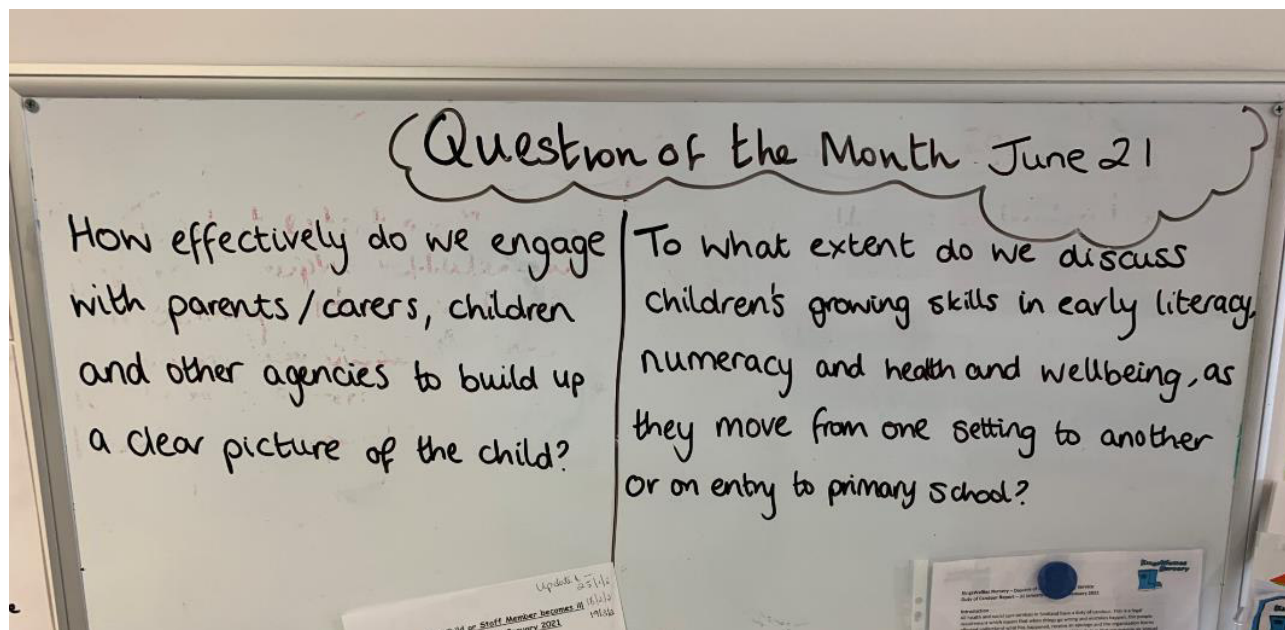


KingsWellies Parent Council

If you would like to join our parent council, please contact Marcia who will also be in touch soon to arrange our next zoom meeting.

Question of the month – June 2020

Each month we strive to self-evaluate our practice because we want to be a better nursery. We also need our parents to give us feedback. We very much value your feedback.



KingsWellies Improvement Plan 2021 / 2022

We are at that point again where we are about to write our new improvement plan for session 2021/22. What do you think that we could improve on? Please let us know. I will share the DRAFT Improvement Plan with you in due course.

Aberdeen City Council Pre-School Funding – Session 2021/22 – 1140 hours

As per my previous emails, KingsWellies Nursery will continue to provide the increased 1140 FREE hours from September 2021. I will send out more information about this, very soon. We have NOT yet received the funding application forms from ACC. As soon as we receive these, we will pass these on to parents to complete and return asap.



Messy Children are Happy Children

Since returning to nursery, we have been playing outside as much as possible. Water walls, mud kitchen, shaving foam, playdough, construction, loose play, minibeast hunts, hedgehog preservation and so much more! We are having so much fun but sorry if we come home a bit messy! Remember that you can order our nursery uniform to keep your good clothes nice and clean!



KingsWellies Too – new nursery extension

As per my previous emails, we are very excited to be opening a new extension in August 2021. This will enable us to offer more spaces to our 3-5 age range. If you haven't already done so, please let us know if you would like any additional days for your children (preschool age range). More information including lots of videos and photos to follow. How exciting!



KingsWellies Policies of the Month

This month we would like to provide you with the opportunity to review and consult on our Biting Policy and our Transitions Policy. Please give us your feedback and suggestions. Your feedback will shape our future priorities for improvement.

Attach policies please

Parent Tips, Ideas and Suggestions

This is a space for parents to communicate with each other. If you have any suggestions, please email us with your ideas so that we can include them in this section of the newsletter.

Comments, Compliments and Concerns

Please give us your feedback – good and bad. It means a lot to us! We only want to keep improving in order to provide the BEST service possible. PLEASE make us your first port of call if you have any comments or concerns. If we work together, we will be able to achieve the very best for all of our children. Many thanks.

We also have Compliments slips available in reception in relation to our staff. The staff work very hard and we all know that it is nice to hear a compliment from time to time. Many thanks to those parents who have already paid staff members a compliment. We are always looking for Workers of the Week and Workers of the Month.

If you would like this newsletter or any other documentation from nursery translated in to another language or an alternate reading format, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Admissions, Induction and Transition Policy

Published	October 2014 (V1)
Reviewed	March 2016 (V2)
Revised	Annually



Admissions, Induction and Transition Policy

Admissions

We follow Aberdeen City Council guidelines for admission to KingsWellies Nursery. We aim to ensure the admission of children is fair, equitable and responsive to the needs and preferences of individual children and their parents or carers. No child will be excluded because of ethnicity, culture, religious beliefs, language, family background, additional support needs, disability, gender or ability.

Induction

- On application to KingsWellies Nursery, parents / carers are asked to provide personal details and information about their child and themselves. Confidentiality of information will be respected.
- Parents / carers are given a copy of the KingsWellies Nursery Handbook and KingsWellies Nursery Prospectus. This gives details of the vision, values, aims, policies and procedures of KingsWellies Nursery.
- Parents are invited to a meeting with the Nursery Manager / Nursery Director when nursery policies and procedures and the curriculum are discussed.
- Links are made with any previous nursery providers e.g. playgroups or private nurseries in order to consult on the individual needs of your child.

Settling In

- We make arrangements for the child and parents or carers to visit KingsWellies Nursery so that they can familiarise themselves with the nursery staff and environment.
- We offer a warm and welcoming environment and ensure each child feels included, secure and valued.
- We deal sensitively with the child's readiness to leave the parent/ carer and the parent/carer's readiness to leave the child.
- We stagger the intake of any new children to the nursery group and work in consultation with the parent / carer to make this as easy and flexible as possible.
- We provide ongoing daily feedback to parents/carers about how their child is coping in the nursery.

Room to Room Transitions within KingsWellies Nursery

Children within KingsWellies Nursery will move/progress throughout the nursery. Transitions happen around 18 months, 3 years and Primary 1.

Staff will assess the age and stage of each child and discuss with parents before the initial transition process begins.

Room Supervisors will meet with Depute Managers on a monthly basis to discuss the children who are ready to move and who are at the correct age and stage of development.

The Nursery Director will authorise the children moving before transition process begins.

Transition forms are to be completed by each keyworker. Parents to read over and add any other information as necessary and appropriate.

Existing Key worker and new key worker are to meet with the child's parents to discuss the child moving.

The Key worker and staff in the new room are to be sensitive to each child's individual needs and allow time for the child to settle into the new surroundings. Each room will welcome the child and parents into the room and explain new routines, procedures, i.e. daily report sheets, parenting, etc.

At the end of the first week, key workers will discuss how the child is getting on with visits to the room and whether they require further visits or are ready to move rooms.

When the child moves, we will ensure that the transition form, care plan and learning journey are passed onto the new room immediately.

Transition

- When a child is transferring to a new nursery, we invite the staff from the new nursery to come to meet the child at KingsWellies before they leave.
- When a child is transferring to P1 we make arrangements for the child to visit the relevant primary 1 classroom and where practical to meet their primary 1 teacher.
- We pass all reports and records of achievement to the new primary 1 teacher and invite the new P1 teacher to visit the child in their own setting at KingsWellies.
- Throughout the year we keep regular contact and meetings with the Aberdeen City Early Years Team and with our local feeder primary schools.

Biting Policy

Published	March 2015 (V1)
Reviewed	March 2016 (V2)
Revised	Session 2017/18



Biting Policy

At KingsWellies Nursery we follow a positive behaviour policy to promote positive behaviour at all times. However we understand that children may use certain behaviours such as biting as part of their development. Biting is a common behaviour that some young children go through and can be triggered when they do not yet have the words to communicate their anger, frustration or need.

Our procedures

The nursery uses the following strategies to prevent biting: sensory activities, biting rings, adequate resources and staff who recognise when children need more stimulation or quiet times. However, in the event of a child being bitten we use the following procedures. The most relevant staff member(s) will:

- Comfort any child who has been bitten and check for any visual injury. Administer any first aid where necessary. Complete an accident and incident form and inform the parents via telephone if deemed appropriate. Continue to observe the bitten area for signs of infection. For confidentiality purposes and possible conflict, we do not disclose the name of the child who has caused the bite to the parents
- Tell the child who has caused the bite in terms that they understand that biting (the behaviour and not the child) is unkind and show the child that it makes staff and the child who has been bitten sad. The child will be asked to say sorry if developmentally appropriate or helped to develop their empathy skills by giving the child who has been bitten a favourite book or comforter.
- If a child continues to bite, carry out observations to try to distinguish a cause, e.g. tiredness or frustration
- Arrange for a meeting with the child's parents to develop strategies to prevent the biting behaviour. Parents will be reassured that it is part of a child's development and not made to feel that it is their fault
- In the event of a bite breaking the skin and to reduce the risk of infection from bacteria, give prompt treatment to both the child who has bitten and the child who had been bitten
- If a child or member of staff sustains a bite wound where the skin has been severely broken, arrange for urgent medical attention after initial first aid has been carried out.

In cases where a child may repeatedly bite and/or if they have a particular special educational need or disability that lends itself to increased biting, e.g. in some cases of autism where a child doesn't have the communication skills, the nursery manager will carry out a risk assessment and may recommend immunisation with hepatitis B vaccine for all staff and children.